

SANTA YSABEL DISASTER/EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS NEWSLETTER

Spring Issue – March 2017

SANTA YSABEL DISASTER/EMERG PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

The Santa Ysabel Disaster/Emergency Preparedness Committee, composed of Tribal government officials, community members, and allied agency personnel, meets regularly to discuss the community's Emergency Response Plan, Hazard Mitigation Plan, community training, and events to raise awareness and provide information on emergency response planning.



GREETINGS!

It has been an eventful Winter, and our State appears well on its way towards relieving the drought which has plagued the State for the past several years. The hills are green, rivers flowing, and lakes and ponds near capacity. Too much of a good thing, as they say, can be bad. It's a good time to review tips on dealing with the occasional flood. Since seismic activity has picked up a bit in our area, it's also a great time to review earthquake safety tips. Don't forget to check out the details in this issue concerning our upcoming Community Safety Fair. We hope to see you there!

Helpful Web Links to Assist in Emergency Response Plan Preparations and Flood Management

San Diego County Office of Emergency Services Disaster Preparation App:

<http://www.readysandiego.org/SDEmergencyApp/?nomobileredirect=true>

American Red Cross:

<http://www.redcross.org/find-help/disaster-recovery>

California Department of Water Resources, Flood Management:

<http://www.water.ca.gov/floodmgmt/lrafmo/fmb/fas/risknotification/>

County of San Diego, Ready San Diego:

<http://www.readysandiego.org/family/>

San Diego County Office of Emergency Services, Flood Preparedness:

http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/oes/disaster_preparedness/oes_jl_flooding.html#top

San Diego Humane Society:

<http://www.sdhumane.org/site/PageServer?pagename=links>

Federal Emergency Management Agency:

<https://www.fema.gov/media-library/resources-documents/collections/344>

Disaster Response Kit:

<http://www.ready.gov/build-a-kit>

HOW TO PREPARE FOR AND REACT TO A FLOOD

You may not be able to stop an oncoming flood, but you may be able to mitigate some of its damage by knowing what to do before, during and after one of nature's most devastating perils.

What to do before a flood

To help reduce damage:

- Install backflow valves or standpipes to prevent sewer lines from backing up.
- Elevate your washer, dryer, water heater, oil tank, furnace and electrical wiring on concrete blocks. If you're unable to raise an item, anchor it and protect it with a floodwall or shield.
- Install a sump pump system if you have below-grade floors.
- Landscape with plants and vegetation that resist soil erosion.
- Consider storing irreplaceable family items and important documents somewhere other than the basement or ground level.
- Install a flood-detection device that sounds an alarm or calls your phone if it senses water – typically, in your basement.

What to do during a flood

A flood can be scary, but try to stay calm. The most important thing is to keep your family safe, but if you have time:

- Turn off utilities at the main power switch.
- Move valuables, important papers and clothing to upper floors. If you have only one floor, put items on shelves, tables or countertops.
- Sanitize your bathtub and sinks and fill them with fresh, clean water in case the water supply becomes contaminated.
- If you feel threatened by rising water, leave your home or move to upper floors.
- Never try to drive through a flood. Six inches of water can cause loss of control and possible stalling.
- If you're in your car when the water begins to rise quickly, abandon it and move to higher ground.
- Don't walk through flood areas. Just 6 inches of water can sweep you away.
- Stay away from downed power lines.

What to do after a flood

After emergency officials have given permission to re-enter your home:

- Check for structural damage before going inside.
- If it's dark, use a flashlight – not matches, a candle or a lighter.
- Listen for reports to see when drinking water is safe again.
- Don't turn your power on until an electrician has inspected your system.
- Use your cell phone or other camera to photograph damage, which can help get your claim started sooner.
- Inventory damaged or destroyed items – again, to expedite your claim.
- Report your claim to your insurance agent or company as soon as possible.
- Begin initial cleanup as soon as waters recede. Separate damaged from undamaged items and clean and disinfect everything that got wet.
- When cleaning, wear a mask, gloves and coveralls to minimize exposure to possible hazardous materials.
- Mold can be a hazardous result from a flood. Consider a professional service that specializes in post-flood cleanup.
- Once you've gathered documentation about your damage and your insurance coverage, contact your insurance company or agent.



EARTHQUAKES



Earthquakes are sudden rolling or shaking events caused by movement under the earth's surface. Earthquakes happen along cracks in the earth's surface, called fault lines, and can be felt over large areas, although they usually last less than one minute. Earthquakes cannot be predicted — although scientists are working on it!

All 50 states and 5 U.S. territories are at some risk for earthquakes. Earthquakes can happen at any time of the year.

Before an Earthquake

- Look around places where you spend time. Identify safe places such as under a sturdy piece of furniture or against an interior wall in your home, office or school so that when the shaking starts, you Drop to the ground, Cover your head and neck with your arms, and if a safer place is nearby, crawl to it and Hold On.
- Practice how to “**Drop, Cover, and Hold On!**”
- To react quickly you must practice often. You may only have seconds to protect yourself in an earthquake.
- Before an earthquake occurs, secure items that could fall and cause injuries (e.g., bookshelves, mirrors, light fixtures).
- Store critical supplies (e.g., water, medication) and documents.
- Plan how you will communicate with family members, including multiple methods by making a [family emergency communication plan](#).
- When choosing your home or business, check if the building is earthquake resistant per local building codes.

During an Earthquake

If you are inside a building:

- Stay where you are until the shaking stops. Do not run outside. Do not get in a doorway as this does not provide protection from falling or flying objects, and you may not be able to remain standing.
- Drop down onto your hands and knees so the earthquake doesn't knock you down. Drop to the ground (before the earthquake drops you!)
- Cover your head and neck with your arms to protect yourself from falling debris.
- If you are in danger from falling objects, and you can move safely, crawl for additional cover under a sturdy desk or table.
- If there is low furniture or an interior wall or corner nearby, and the path is clear, these may also provide some additional cover.
- Stay away from glass, windows, outside doors and walls, and anything that could fall, such as light fixtures or furniture.
- Hold on to any sturdy covering so you can move with it until the shaking stops. Stay where you are until the shaking stops.

If getting safely to the floor to take cover won't be possible:

- Identify an inside corner of the room away from windows and objects that could fall on you. The Earthquake Country Alliance advises getting as low as possible to the floor. People who use wheelchairs or other mobility devices should lock their wheels and remain seated until the shaking stops. Protect your head and neck with your arms, a pillow, a book, or whatever is available.

If you are in bed when you feel the shaking:

- If you are in bed: Stay there and Cover your head and neck with a pillow. At night, hazards and debris are difficult to see and avoid; attempts to move in the dark result in more injuries than remaining in bed.

If you are outside when you feel the shaking:

- If you are outdoors when the shaking starts, move away from buildings, streetlights, and utility wires. Once in the open, “Drop, Cover, and Hold On.” Stay there until the shaking stops. This might not be possible in a city, so you may need to duck inside a building to avoid falling debris.

If you are in a moving vehicle when you feel the shaking:

- If you are in a moving vehicle, stop as quickly and safely as possible and stay in the vehicle. Avoid stopping near or under buildings, trees, overpasses, and utility wires. Proceed cautiously once the earthquake has stopped. Avoid roads, bridges, or ramps that the earthquake may have damaged.

After an Earthquake

- When the shaking stops, look around. If there is a clear path to safety, leave the building and go to an open space away from damaged areas.
- If you are trapped, do not move about or kick up dust.
- If you have a cell phone with you, use it to call or text for help.
- Tap on a pipe or wall or use a whistle, if you have one, so that rescuers can locate you.
- Once safe, monitor local news reports via battery operated radio, TV, social media, and cell phone text alerts for emergency information and instructions.
- Be prepared to “Drop, Cover, and Hold on” in the likely event of aftershocks.

Listen to Local Officials

Learn about the emergency plans that have been established in your area by your [state and local government](#). In any emergency, always listen to the instructions given by local emergency management officials.

Resources

Find additional information on how to plan and prepare for an earthquake and learn about available resources by visiting the following websites:

- [America’s PrepareAthon!](#)
- [The Great ShakeOut](#)
- [Federal Emergency Management Agency](#)
- [U.S. Geological Survey Earthquake Hazards Program](#)
- [American Red Cross](#)
- [Earthquake Country Alliance](#)
- [National Science Foundation](#)
- [National Institute of Standards and Technology](#)

Publications

If you require more information about any of these topics, the following resources may be helpful.

- [America’s PrepareAthon! How to Prepare for Earthquakes](#)
 - [Earthquake Preparedness: What Every Childcare Provider Should Know.](#)
- [How to Guides to Protect Your Property or Business from Earthquakes.](#)

THE SANTA YSABEL RESERVATION FIRE DEPARTMENT IN ACTION

These photos serve as a reminder that disaster and emergencies can happen anywhere at any time. Use caution when working around your home and driving on our local roadways. There have been an unusually high number of traffic accidents involving motorcycles lately. If you ride, remember that many drivers just don’t see you. If you don’t ride, remember to remain vigilant for those who prefer to cruise on two wheels.



UPCOMING EVENTS

On Saturday April 8th, from 10 am to 2 pm, the Iipay Nation Disaster Preparedness Committee, and the many agencies represented on our Committee, will host our annual Safety Preparedness Fair at the Iipay Nation's softball field located adjacent to the Santa Ysabel Mission in the 23000 block of Highway 79. The goal of the event is to equip our community members with the knowledge and resources needed to effectively deal with disasters and emergency situations.

Safety Fair attendees will receive information on formulating disaster preparedness plans for their families, as well as receive information on effectively dealing with a wide variety of emergencies. There will be fire-fighting demonstrations, instruction in the selection and proper use of fire extinguishers, handling medical emergencies, avoiding injury during disasters and emergencies, and fun interactive activities for children.

The San Diego Sheriff's Department Astrea helicopter and Mercy Air's helicopter will land at the event and the San Diego County Office of Emergency Services will distribute excellent resources to assist families in emergency response planning. Emergency Planning Kits and other safety resources will be available free of charge to Safety Fair attendees. We will also host a free community BBQ for those who attend. Bring your softball glove and join the fun on the field.

Participating agencies at this event include: San Diego County Office of Emergency Services, San Diego County Sheriff's Department, American Red Cross, Santa Ysabel Reservation Fire Department, Julian CERT (Crisis Emergency Response Team), and many others.


 PLEASE JOIN THE
 SANTA YSABEL FIRE
 DEPARTMENT,
 AMERICAN RED CROSS &
 OTHER AGENCIES TO
 LEARN ABOUT DISASTER
 PREPAREDNESS AT THE


 American
 Red Cross

Safety & Preparedness FAIR!

SATURDAY, APRIL 8 TH
 10AM-2PM

IIPAY NATION SOFTBALL FIELD
 NEXT TO THE SANTA YSABEL MISSION
 23000 BLK OF HWY 79
 SANTA YSABEL, CA

EMERGENCY
 RESOURCES


 INFORMATION
 DEMONSTRATIONS

FOOD

PERSONAL PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES!

